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November 20, 2012

Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: DA 12-1863, IB Docket No. 12-340, RM-11683

Dear FCC,

As a state legislator in Maine, a mostly rural state, I have long been painfully aware of the lack of adequate wireless broadband access in the United States. That is why the prospect of a new nationwide network that could reach into areas currently under-served or lacking Internet connections has long held my interest.

I'm writing now in support of LightSquared's License Modification Application, which I understand would create a public-private use of spectrum while creating increased security for the GPS industry that had problems with the company's previous plans.

Certainly, the technical issues of the plan must be worked out, but we should also remain focused on the enormous potential that LightSquared offers. If my state, and indeed our nation, are going to compete in a global marketplace we cannot continue to lag other countries in terms of broadband access and spectrum use.

This seems like a wonderful way to meet the concerns of many stakeholders while also making efficient use of spectrum, a finite resource. Increasing access to wireless broadband can't happen soon enough for rural America and the price-lowering competition is bound to benefit all wireless consumers for decades to come.

Sincerely,


Rep. Diane Russell